

Name _____

Date _____

Topic: English – ‘Making Connections’ – Coordinating Conjunctions

Reading/Discussion:

Let’s talk about sentences. A sentence is a group of words which starts with a capital letter and ends with a punctuation mark such as a period, question mark or exclamation point. Each sentence contains a subject, a verb and an object. Here is an example of a simple sentence:

The dog (**subject**) lay (**verb**) on the mat (**object**).

Even if you add adjectives, for example, ‘The **smelly** dog lay on the **dirty** mat.’, or an adverb, ‘The smelly dog lay **quietly** on the dirty mat.’, the sentence is still a simple sentence because it is only talking about one thing or idea (the dog on the mat) and only has one verb.

A compound sentence is made up of two or more simple sentences. Instead of using two simple sentences, such as: ‘The dog lay on the mat.’ and ‘The cat slept in the basket.’, we can join them, using a **conjunction**, to make a compound sentence: ‘The dog lay on the mat **but** the cat slept in the basket.’

Sometimes the subject or object is the same in both sentences so we leave it out in the second sentence when we join them. For example the two sentences ‘The dog lay on the mat.’ and ‘The dog slept in the basket.’, could become ‘The dog lay on the mat **or** in the basket.’.

The types of conjunctions we are talking about are called **coordinating conjunctions**. They are: **for; and; nor; but; or; yet** and **so**.

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Activities:

A Find the connections

Once you have read this short story go back and underline all the simple sentences which made up the compound sentences. Then put a different colored circle around all the conjunctions.

The small white puppy went down to the pond and he splashed in the water. He loved playing in the pond or running through puddles but he knew it was naughty for wet fur made the carpet soggy. He was dripping wet so he tried to dry his fur. He rolled in the sand and he rolled on the grass but the sand made him muddy and the grass got stuck on the mud. Now he looked like a little muddy monster. He didn't look like a small, white, worried puppy at all but he was worried. He knew he would get into trouble yet he had to go back home so he walked slowly back. Jenny was busy watering the garden so she didn't see him come in the gate or hear him walk up the pathway. He gave a miserable little yap and she turned around quickly but she forgot she was holding the hose and the water splashed all over him. Now he just looked like a wet, white puppy again, yet Jenny wasn't angry with him for she thought it was all her fault. She carried him inside and dried him with a big fluffy towel so everything worked out well in the end.

B Make the connections

Use a conjunction to turn each pair of sentences into one compound sentence.

1. Dolphins are mammals. They cannot live on land.
2. Do you want to play with a puzzle? Do you want to read a book?
3. I like puzzles. I like books.
4. He ate all his dinner. His mom said he could have a piece of candy.
5. She came inside. It was dark outside.

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Answer Sheet

Activity A

The small white puppy went down to the pond and he splashed in the water. He loved playing in the pond or running through puddles but he knew it was naughty for wet fur made the carpet soggy. He was dripping wet so he tried to dry his fur. He rolled in the sand and he rolled on the grass but the sand made him muddy and the grass got stuck on the mud. Now he looked like a little muddy monster. He didn't look like a small, white, worried puppy at all but he was worried. He knew he would get into trouble yet he had to go back home so he walked slowly back. His mistress was busy watering the garden so she didn't see him come in the gate or hear him walk up the pathway. He gave a miserable little yap and she turned around quickly but she forgot she was holding the hose and the water splashed all over him. Now he just looked like a wet, white puppy again, yet his mistress wasn't angry with him for she thought it was all her fault. She carried him inside and dried him with a big fluffy towel so everything worked out well in the end.

Activity B

1. Dolphins are mammals **but** they cannot live on land.
2. Do you want to play with a puzzle **or** do you want to read a book?
3. I like puzzles **and** I like books.
4. He ate all his dinner **so** his mom said he could have a piece of candy.
5. She came inside **for** it was dark outside.